

STATE SENATOR • DEBORAH CHERRY • 26TH DISTRICT

Cherry Press Release



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SENATOR DEB CHERRY TO ATTEND POLICY ACADEMY ON CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT

(LANSING)—State Senator Deb Cherry (D-Burton) is one of eight legislators from the state of Michigan selected to attend the Policy Academy on Chronic Disease Prevention and Management in Chicago next month. The Policy Academy is an intensive workshop designed to help states develop statewide action plans for addressing chronic diseases.

“It is a great honor to be selected to attend this Academy,” said Cherry. “Only nine states were selected to send teams to the Policy Academy. This forum provides a great opportunity to meet with national experts and other state legislators to share best practices and find workable solutions to chronic health care problems in our state.”

Participating state teams attending the Academy are comprised of influential health policy decision-makers from the legislative and executive branches of state government, as well as outside stakeholders. The purpose of the Policy Academy is to provide health policy advisors, legislators, state health officials, and community-based representatives a forum in which they can work together to develop action plans for preventing and addressing chronic diseases.

“Chronic diseases cost our state a great deal,” said Cherry. “Not only do they account for a good portion of Medicaid spending every year, but they are also costly in terms of quality of life for our citizens. Many people suffering from chronic illnesses are not able to be active participants in the workforce or their communities. We need to develop a plan that re-establishes prevention programs in our state and promotes healthy lifestyles.”

Senator Cherry is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and is Minority Vice Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education, and the subcommittee on Community Health.

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